

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

Call to Order: Chair Mark Blasdel, on February 17, 2017 at 9:00 A.M., in Room 405 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Mark Blasdel, Chair (R)
Sen. Roger Webb, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Dick Barrett (D)
Sen. Jill Cohenour (D)
Sen. Brian Hoven (R)
Sen. Sue Malek (D)
Sen. Edith (Edie) McClafferty (D)
Sen. JP Pomnichowski (D)
Sen. Tom Richmond (R)
Sen. Russel (Russ) Tempel (R)
Sen. Fred Thomas (R)

Members Excused: Sen. Scott Sales (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Jaret Coles, Legislative Branch
Olivia Hopkins, Committee Secretary

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 209, 2/14/2017; HB 226, 2/14/2017

Executive Action: SB 156, SB 180

00:00:40 Chairman Blasdel

HEARING ON HB 226

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:00:50 Rep. Zac Perry (D), HD 3, opened the hearing on HB 226, Allow increase property tax abatement for new or expanding industry.

00:02:13 Chairman Blasdel

[EXHIBIT\(tas35a01\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(tas35a02\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:02:41 Eric Bryson, Montana Association of Counties
 00:03:50 Tim Burton, executive director, Montana League of Cities and Towns (MLCT)
 00:04:55 Sen. Thomas and Sen. Malek entered the meeting.
 00:05:02 Ken Fichtler, Governor's Office of Economic Development
 00:07:21 Bridger Mahlum, Montana Chamber of Commerce
 00:09:46 Robert Story, Montana Taxpayers Association
 00:10:14 Gloria O'Rourke, Montana Economic Developers Association

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

00:11:21 Mike Kadas, Montana Department of Revenue

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:11:38 Sen. Barrett
 00:12:02 Mr. Burton, MLCT
 00:12:34 Sen. Barrett
 00:13:02 Mr. Burton
 00:13:34 Sen. Barrett
 00:14:09 Mr. Burton
 00:14:14 Sen. Barrett
 00:15:07 Mr. Burton
 00:15:52 Sen. Hoven
 00:16:39 Mr. Burton
 00:17:40 Sen. Hoven
 00:18:03 Mr. Burton
 00:18:34 Sen. Hoven
 00:18:55 Mr. Burton
 00:19:14 Sen. Webb
 00:19:32 Mr. Burton
 00:19:48 Sen. Webb
 00:22:01 Sen. McClafferty entered the meeting.
 00:20:00 Mr. Burton

00:20:32 Sen. Webb
00:20:47 Mr. Burton
00:20:49 Chairman Blasdel

Closing by Sponsor:

00:21:02 Rep. Perry
00:23:13 Chairman Blasdel

HEARING ON HB 209

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:23:20 Rep. Barry Usher (R), HD 40, opened the hearing on HB 209, Extend funding to Coal Board.

[EXHIBIT\(tas35a03\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:26:40 Sandra Jones, mayor, City of Roundup
[EXHIBIT\(tas35a04\)](#)

00:29:01 Jim Atchison, executive director, Southeastern Montana Development
[EXHIBIT\(tas35a05\)](#)

00:31:04 Dave Galt, Montana Association of Oil and Gas Counties
00:31:40 Bob Gilbert, Rosebud County
00:35:07 Robert Story, Montana Taxpayers Association
00:36:05 Tim Burton, Montana League of Cities and Towns

Opponents' Testimony:

00:36:34 Doug Mitchell , Montana Department of Commerce (COM)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:38:51 Sen. Hoven
00:39:34 Ms. Jones, Roundup
00:39:55 Sen. Hoven
00:40:08 Ms. Jones
00:40:41 Sen. Barrett
00:41:12 Mr. Mitchell, COM
00:42:11 Sen. Barrett
00:42:24 Mr. Mitchell
00:42:43 Sen. Barrett
00:42:53 Mr. Mitchell

Closing by Sponsor:

00:43:33 Rep. Usher
00:47:32 Chairman Blasdel
00:47:45 Sen. Thomas left the meeting.
00:47:56 Recess
01:00:28 Reconvened
01:00:31 Chairman Blasdel

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 156

01:00:43 **Motion:** Sen. Cohenour moved that **SB 156 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

01:00:52 Sen. Cohenour
01:01:40 Sen. Hoven
01:02:22 Chairman Blasdel
01:02:56 Sen. Barrett
01:04:36 Sen. Cohenour
01:05:14 Sen. Tempel
01:05:34 Sen. Richmond
01:05:53 **Vote:** Motion carried 7-5 by roll call vote with Sen. Blasdel, Sen. Richmond, Sen. S. Sales, Sen. Thomas and Sen. R. Webb voting no. Sen. S. Sales and Sen. Thomas voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 180

01:07:11 **Motion:** Sen. R. Webb moved that **SB 180 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

01:07:13 Chairman Blasdel
01:07:47 Sen. Barrett
01:09:00 Sen. Richmond
01:09:11 Sen. Barrett
01:09:22 Sen. Hoven
01:09:33 Jaret Coles, Legislative Services Division (LSD)
01:10:03 Sen. Malek
01:10:15 Mr. Coles, LSD
01:10:43 Sen. Tempel
01:11:10 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. S. Sales and Sen. Thomas voted by proxy.
01:11:31 Chairman Blasdel

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 10:11 AM

Olivia Hopkins, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([tas35aad.pdf](#))